



# THE BELL RINGER



Montgomery Bell Academy 4001 Harding Road Nashville, TN 37205 December 17, 1999 Volume 56 Number 3

## Big Red Rolls Through Perfect Season

By Johnny Sisk

MBA starting quarterback Ingle Martin is unusually giddy. Not that normal Ingle giddy, but a rather strange giddy. However, coolly and calmly walking around the locker

tell by the look on his face. And you could never tell by that same attitude the entire team took into every game of the 1999 football season.

And this attitude Ingle exhibits, while possibly somewhat more relaxed than his teammates', is still a perfect example for this year's football team, the last MBA has fielded this century. Not once has this team shown much intensity or focus until game time. Why then, could a seemingly unfocused squad quarterbacked by an unfocused Ingle finish the season 12-0 winning a state championship and dominate their opponents in a fashion not often seen in Tennessee?

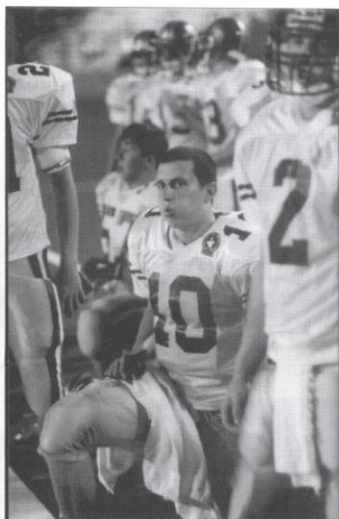
Hard work, confidence, strong work ethic, and a lack of showiness that has arguably characterized some MBA teams the last few years. Approaching every game as a job, the Big Red's work-like manner

won them twelve games. As defensive coordinator Coach Floyd Elliott commented, "Every week we showed up, ready to play ... when you have a group of guys willing to prepare, set goals, go after them the way these guys did, it made it a lot easier to practice and play the games."

And despite the bold expectations this season, there was no celebration by the team until the final game on Saturday, November 20. This team has proved one of the most mature and professional high school squads not only of the decade but also in the history of Tennessee prep

football. Questioning that last statement? It's not that bold a claim when you look at the stats. The numbers practically speak for themselves. 12 wins, 0 losses, and a second consecu-

their opponents 385-33 through three quarters over the course of the whole season. These games were over by halftime. Who knows how many more points the team could have put up had



room at about 6:10 PM on Friday, September 10, 1999, Ingle is hiding his trademark giddiness. He is, in fact, absolutely beside himself. In about an hour, he and the rest of the Big Red football team will be taking the field for the biggest game of the year against the nationally ranked Bolles Bulldogs from Jacksonville, Florida. But Ingle shows no signs of fear, feels no butterflies in his stomach. He feels nothing but excitement. After walking into the managers' equipment room, his stoic game face disappears as his face breaks into the biggest smile anywhere on campus. He is hyper-pumped, ready to take the field at that moment, while at the same time, cracking jokes about the Bolles cheerleaders he just saw upstairs. I almost ask him if he knows what team is playing tonight. But he seems too happy. I just can't break the bad news to him now. Still, I can't help thinking, "This is the starting quarterback of the 3-0 Big Red football team, a squad that has already defeated two of last year's state champions? Shouldn't he be focused and intense and brooding and ... doesn't he know he's about to face a team that's been ranked #1 in the country?!" But you could never



tive state championship Clinic Bowl victory. MBA's first perfect undefeated season since 1968, the team's last championship year before 1998's unexpected upset of Brentwood Academy. Sure, the undefeated season is admirable, but it's the ease with which MBA has dispatched its opponents which makes this group so extraordinary.

Outscoring opponents 425-82, shutting out half of their regular season foes, the Big Red made their

12-game sweep look terribly easy. Even scarier than those dominating numbers is that Coach Ricky Bowers could have made them much worse. He habitually took out his starters mid-way through the third quarter. Understandably, the second team hardly produced any offense in the fourth quarter. But that fact alone means that not only did MBA dominate

its opponents in such a crushing fashion, the team did it in about three quarters every week. They outscored

everyone played the entire game?

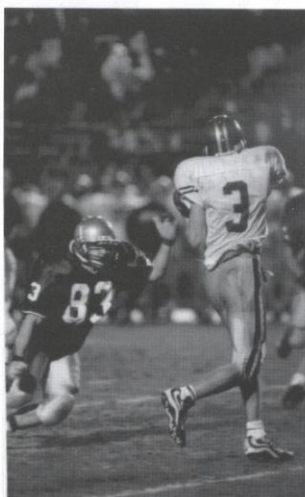
MBA's coaching staff, the best in the state of Tennessee, has no doubt, influenced the team's persistent work ethic. Under the incredible leadership of Coach Bowers, the coaches have been able to mold strong talent into a great team. With Coaches Caudill and Bowers running the offense and Coaches Elliott and Hiett creating a variety of defensive schemes, the team's execution was superb. Throw in Coach Brown's work with the defensive line, Coach Redmond's job with the secondary, and Coach McGugin's help with receivers, and is it any wonder the team was unstoppable? Then add Coach Joe Davis' instructing kickers, coaching backs, making all-important videotape for the players to study, as well as risking serious injury to quarterback the scout offense, and it's easy to see why the Big Red has been so successful.

To say the least, this team has proved to be one of MBA's best. The players, of course, played a large part

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## Construction Workers Speak Out

By Steven Syverud

I recently sat down with three construction workers, Mr. England, Mr. Johnson and the worker who commonly wears a cowboy hat but was not able to answer two of the

will change the look of the campus. The project we've been doing—the additions and the Science buildings and now the Science building adds a third more space to the campus.

Bell Ringer: How does this



questions) to ask their opinion of topics ranging from MBA students to the Carter Building, slated to be finished before classes start in the fall of 2000. They held MBA and its community in a very high regard.

Bell Ringer: What do you think of MBA?

Mr. England: They're all athletic around here—they have a lot of athletes.

Mr. Johnson: It seems to be a big school.

Mr. Cowboy: MBA is a great school.

Bell Ringer: What do you think of the Carter building project?

Mr. England: It's going to be a real nice building. I think everybody will like it when it's done.

Mr. Johnson: It's all right, I guess.

Mr. Cowboy: I think the Carter building is a grand undertaking. It

project compares to your other projects?

Mr. England: We've been working at Vanderbilt and all the buildings there are concrete structures. On this project we're doing wood framing. I like getting back to wood. Yeah, I like it.

Mr. Johnson: How the same. Bell Ringer: Have you been treated well at MBA?

Mr. England: Shoot, yeah!

Mr. Johnson: Yeah.

Mr. Cowboy: They've treated me pretty well.

Bell Ringer: What do you think of the MBA students?

Mr. England: Cool!

Mr. Johnson: Well behaved (sometimes).

As construction has been a big part of MBA, so, too, have the workers, and we must be thankful of their tremendous effort.

## Boys and Girls Club Tutoring

By Steven Syverud

Nestled on Thompson Lane by I-45 is a place you may have never seen. Inside, the paint is chipped, the building cramped, and the trained staff overwhelmed. If not for the work of volunteers, they are outnumbered by a ratio of 300 to one in places like this nationally. Nationwide, they serve over three million children from preschoolers to seniors in High School. But this is no ordinary day care center.

Of the children they serve 51% come from single parent families, 41% from families with income below \$22,000 annually. At the entrance to this institution a sign reads:

"Please Check Weapons at the Door." This is the Boys and Girls Club. This is their mission statement;

Montgomery Bell Academy, though its students come from totally different backgrounds than the pupils in the Boys and Girls Clubs of Middle Tennessee has left its mark on the institution. Who is the Head of the Board of Trustees at this chapter of the Boys and Girls Clubs? A fellow by the name of Mr. Bradford Gioia. Since the mid '80s, MBA students led by Mr. Haywood Mosley have been making journeys to the club on Thompson Lane. They lend a hand in tutoring, in flag football games, in the gym, in the computer room, or in the game room.

Perhaps the children from this place have a larger effect on MBA students than they imagine. Students get a rare chance to see a side of their city they are distant from. The



"The Boys and Girls Club Movement is a nationwide affiliation of local, autonomous organizations and Boys and Girls Clubs of America working to help youth from all backgrounds with special concern for those from disadvantaged circumstances, develop the qualities needed to become responsible citizens and leaders."

classrooms and technology are far behind MBA's. The children must deal not only with school and sports but domestic problems. Students enjoy teaching kids how to spell a tough word or how to make a lay-up as the child does.

To see the looks on their faces...

## Philosophy Club Attracts Inquiring Minds

By Andy Gray

A new cadre of students dedicated to the pursuit of philosophical knowledge has emerged at MBA and formed the Philosophy Club. After a very promising first meeting, the group shows great promise as a new forum for all sorts of philosophical inquiry and discussion.

While at Eton College this past spring, senior William Lee realized that unlike Eton, MBA really did not have a medium for student discussion

of philosophical topics. Immediately upon his return he projected to Mr. Gioia the possibility of an organized group to serve this purpose. Subsequently, headmaster Gioia put William in contact with his friend Dr. John Compton, a well known professor of philosophy at Vanderbilt University and a published author on the topics of the impact of natural science on society, the relations of human beings to nature, the foundations of scientific knowledge, the problem of freedom,

and other subjects. Dr. Compton agreed readily to speak to a group of students.

Together with fellow senior and Philosophy Club founder Brad McDowell, William Lee undertook the task of organizing the meeting, which took place last Monday. To the pleasant surprise of the two founding members, the turnout exceeded all expectations with twenty-five students and one teacher present. At the beginning of the meeting, Dr.

Compton introduced himself and said a few words to define the study of philosophy. The topic of discussion was emotion vs. reason, and a number of students participated actively in the discussion. After about an hour and half, Dr. Compton had to leave, but conversation was active and dynamic until the last minute.

The next philosophy club meeting will be held in January after exams, and the guest speaker will likely be Dr. Compton again.



## Diversity Question Looms At MBA

Poll Data Compiled By Matthew Brinton

Over the past few years especially, it has been a policy of Montgomery Bell Academy to attract students of diverse background. This policy, which has been moderately successful, is a result of the realization that MBA should become a school of diverse students with varied interests, that as much as everyone loves the history and tradition of the school, some things, such as the make-up of the student body need to be changed to reflect better on the current world in which we live.

In the following pages, there are opinions pieces by students about what it means to be a minority in the MBA community. This project is independent of the Diversity Committee which has been recently formed by faculty and staff.

The following poll was taken by students in every grade in the high school. (Some percentages do not add up to 100 percent, as some students declined to answer some questions or gave answers that were not choices.)

The purpose of this poll and of these articles is partially to get a better understanding of the thoughts and feelings of students willing to write about them and partially to stir up conversation on the subject of diversity.

### 56 students polled

#### Section I: Vitals

1.Race of Polled	
A.Black	7%
B.White	89%
C.Asian	1%
D.Other	1%
2.Religion	
A.Christian	86%
B.Jewish	5%
C.Other	9%
3.Grade	
A.Freshman	32%
B.Sophomore-	23%
C.Junior	35%
D.Senior	9%
4.Income brackets	
B.Medium	57%
C.High	43%
5.State from	
A.Tennessee	77%
B.South	5%

C.Northerner/Westernr		16%
6.Parents' state		
A.Tennessee	57%	
B.South	9%	
C.Northerner/Westernr	18%	
D.Other	16%	

#### Section II. Preferences

First Place Music	
Other	18%
Some sort of rock	46%
Alternative	10%
Punk	5%
Rap	7%

Second Place Music	
Some sort of rock	32%
rap	13%
country	5%
alternative	10%
jazz	7%
other	20%
heavy metal	7%

Third Place Music	
Some sort of rock	7%
alternative	16%
jazz	13%
rap	9%
country	7%
blues	5%
metal	5%
pop	5%
other	36%

Favorite recent movies	
First Place	
Matrix	30%
Private Ryan	9%
Other	35%
6th Sense	7%
American Beauty	5%
Fight Club	5%

Second Place	
Matrix	9%
6th Sense	10%
Private Ryan	7%
American Pie	7%
Other	67%

Places to Eat	
First Place	
Various Restaraunts	23%
Friend's House	3%
Fast Food	5%
Deli	11%
Foreign	16%
Home	3%
Steakhouse	9%
Grille	18%

Accompanying Article By Gabe Roth

Second Place	
Varied	16%
J.Alexander's	7%
Fast Food	9%
Steak	14%
Grille	16%
Foreign	20%
Pizza	7%

Third Place	
Varied	16%
J.Alexander's	7%
Fast Food	12%
Steak	7%
Grille	11%
Foreign	16%
Deli	2%
Pizza	7%

#### Section III. Lifestyles

1.Have you ever dated a girl who is not of your race?	
Yes	9%
No	77%

2.Have you ever dated a girl who is not of your creed?	
Yes	42%
No	48%

3.If number one was yes, did your parents approve?	
Yes	100%

4.Is being gay immoral?	
Yes	63%
No	23%
Not sure	9%

5.If a close friend was gay, would you...	
Abort the friendship?	28%
Continue with the friendship?	39%
Not sure	23%

6.Do you have close friends of a different color or race?	
Yes	57%
No	32%

7. Have these friends ever been to your house?	
Yes	90%
No	10%

8.Do you feel persecuted because of your color?	
Yes	3%
No	86%
Sometimes	7%

9.Do you feel persecuted because of your creed?	
Yes	13%
No	73%
Sometimes	9%

10.Do you feel persecuted because of your race?	
Yes	1%
No	86%
Sometimes	7%

11.Has a feeling of persecution been aroused at MBA?	
Yes	9%
No	45%
Maybe	11%

12.Do you feel you have to hide your creed in order to fit in?	
Yes	11%
No	82%
Sometimes	7%

13.Do you feel you have to hide your lifestyle in order to fit in?	
Yes	16%
No	78%
Sometimes	5%

14.Do you think you may marry someone of different color?	
Yes	7%
No	73%
Maybe	20%

15.Do you think you may marry someone of a different creed?	
Yes	21%
No	39%
Maybe	32%

16.Would you date someone who you think is less smart than you?	
Yes	76%
No	4%
Maybe	14%

17.Would you date someone who you think is smarter than you?	
Yes	76%
No	4%
Maybe	9%

18.Would you date someone who others believe to be unattractive?	
Yes	54%
No	18%
Maybe	23%

19.Would you date someone with a physical disability?	
Yes	27%
No	39%
Maybe	23%

## Being in the Minority

By Cliff Hancock

Next to the quality of education, diversity, both culturally and socially, is one of the major considerations a family weighs before selecting a school for their child.

MBA provides an excellent education, yet it lacks a strong diverse atmosphere. With a total of 27 African American students and a dozen or so other students of other ethnic groups, the total minority population stands at a strong 10% at MBA this year.

This percentage is somewhat large for a preparatory institution; however, compared to the public school system, this percentage is rather low. As an MBA student, I have noticed over the years a gradual enlargement in the African American population since 1996.

From my personal experience, the reputation of this academy attracts black students and families. There is a problem, however, as many minority members I have encountered agree that the cost of MBA is high.

Many note that some colleges are cheaper to attend than MBA.

The school offers a financial aid plan to allow potential students to attend. But unfortunately, several families still cannot make the financial commitment, and their sons miss out

on a great opportunity.

How is the social life at MBA? Within a society containing minorities, this where the real challenge seems to occur. Personally, my first year here socially was frustrating. As one of only two black students in the eighth grade, people would somehow get us mixed up. Being enrolled in public schools all my life where whites were the minority, I had never encountered this situation. At first I really did not take it seriously, but when I began to feel isolated in sports, classrooms, and class meetings, it started to effect me mentally and emotionally. After three years here, I have made many friends, but I still feel that new black students face some of the same problems I did.

The only way I have to resolve this misunderstanding is if we, as a whole student body, begin to socialize with one another and get to know where each one is coming from. Not by a white guy asking another, "Why do they do...?" Nor by a black guy asking another, "Why do white people...?" But by a white guy asking a minority member, or vice-versa.

MBA could even start bringing African American books into the English department as a first step towards cultural diversity into this institute.

## A New Fellowship

By Michael Pass

Montgomery Bell Academy is one of the South's finest and most prestigious institutions. In its long history, MBA has promoted gentlemanly conduct, scholarship, and athletic endeavors. One of the few things MBA lacked formerly was diversity, but in more recent years, the range of students has increased dramatically. However, I am sure to your great disappointment, this article does not concern diversity. It concerns something that is similar to diversity, but at the same time quite different.

There is an organization at MBA that has a large following and what seems to be an almost universal appeal to athletes. This organization is the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. FCA has done a number of positive things for MBA as well as the surrounding community. It is comprised of hardworking and upstanding young men, and is something that anyone at MBA should be nothing but proud of. However, there is something missing, not from FCA itself, but from the organization of athletes. Jews are missing. I am not suggesting that FCA should incorporate Jews into its ranks, but merely stating that the Jewish athletes at MBA, a hefty number I am sure you realize, need some place to be productive with each

other outside of school athletics.

Am I suggesting the Fellowship of Jewish Athletes? I am suggesting an organization where Jewish athletes can come together, partake in activities, and have a good time. I am sick and tired of sitting at home every Thursday night while my friends go have a jolly evening participating in FCA activities. It is time for MBA to do something different. As far as I know, we would be the first school in the United States to have FJA. Doesn't that sound exciting? Who knows? FJA could become a trend taken up by schools around the country. Well, probably not. None the less, it is something that can be done, and that I hope will gain some interest. We could get some great speakers like Steven Spielberg, Jerry Seinfeld, or Adam Sandler, and I can assure you the food would be great. So if you're Jewish and an athlete—intrinsically count—then come talk to me.

FCA is a very social organization that has an appeal to all types of people because of the unity and sense of comradeship it invokes. If a social organization was formed that offered the same ties of security that FCA does, students who were not Christian would feel less left out, and would not

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## Growing Up Jewish in the South

By Elliott Pinsley

As a Jewish boy growing up in Nashville, TN, I have experienced many different forms of prejudice. Most of the people in the south do not judge me based on my religion. Yet, there are still groups of people that are both racist and anti-Semitic that meet near Nashville, such as the Ku Klux Klan who rally in Pulaski, TN. Fortunately, I have not had to deal with this extreme prejudice directly. Many people have said things that were very offensive to me, either purposely or on accident. Throughout my life, my religion has put an invisible barrier between me and the rest of the world.

Through these past sixteen years living in Nashville, I have encountered many people that call me names strictly because I am Jewish. These phrases that I am about to mention might not seem to be that offensive, but if you are Jewish, then

they are very hurtful. Some people just cannot have someone walking around thinking that they are better than Christians because Jews are the "chosen people." A few years ago, I met a boy my age at an arcade. I was playing NBA Jam while he joined in the game. We started talking, and out of the blue, he asked me where I went to church. I told him that I was not Christian but Jewish. Immediately he glared at me, called me a Jesus-killer, and walked away. This display of ignorance in the form of anti-Semitism completely shocked me. Sometimes when people find out that I am Jewish, they tell me that I cannot be Jewish because I do not "look like a Jew." I have never heard anyone say to a Christian, "You do not look like a Christian." Stereotypes like this can be very offensive. The ignorance about Judaism must be stopped through education.

For the most part, school is a

place where I can feel comfortable and free from religious persecution. Most of the teachers here at school do not persecute me in any way if I miss a day or two of school on a religious holiday. However, in every situation, there are exceptions. One year, I missed one day of school to attend services on the most sacred day in Judaism, Yom Kippur. This is a holiday in which we fast in order to cleanse ourselves of sins. We do not do any work at all because we are supposed to reflect on the pain we have caused others and remember our wrongdoings of the previous year. On this day one of my teachers scheduled a major quiz. My teacher knew that I was going to be gone on this day, and I said that I would schedule a time to take the quiz when I got back. However, when I came back to school, the teacher told me that I either had to take the quiz or get a zero. I tried to explain to her that

there was no possible way that I could have studied for the quiz, but nothing worked. To me, this is anti-Semitic because I was penalized for going to Temple on Yom Kippur. In a nutshell, there is always one rotten apple.

There are youth groups sponsored by MBA that are Christian-oriented and exclude Jews. I believe that these groups can be church-affiliated and not school-affiliated. The announcement in assembly about Jews often makes me feel uncomfortable. This is the reason why the world-wide Jewish youth group AZA was founded. A few boys got together and created an all-Jewish fraternity because they were not allowed to participate in any other groups. This is my third year to be involved in this great organization. I have found AZA to be a place where I feel comfortable with everybody and where I have

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## The Future of Journalism at MBA

By Gabe Roth

Preface

Wake up in the morning and pick up a copy of the *Tennessean* while eating your breakfast and drinking your orange juice. Read the headlines, skim the articles on the front page, and think: do you have any better idea of what is going on in the world now, having read the front page, than you did ten minutes ago when you picked up the paper?

Now that the *Tennessean*, which has been part of the Gannet News Service for as long as I can remember, has a new format and new size, one would think that it would start printing news. Granted, there are some riveting pieces by the Associated Press on East Timor on about page seven, but that does not cut it for many people. The *Tennessean* needs to find the balance between the *Nashville Scene*, which is known around town for its in-depth pieces in the local state of affairs, and the *New York Times*, which is known around the world for its in-depth reporting on

domestic and foreign issues.

*The Real Story*

Pick up an issue of the **Bell**

**Ringer** while walking from one class to another. Read the headlines, skim the articles on the front page, and think: do you have any better idea of what is going on at MBA now, having read the front page, than you did ten minutes ago when you picked up the paper?

Sometimes yes, sometimes no.

At Montgomery Bell Academy, there are two layers to what goes on, two sides to every story. Why did Mr. Ricky Bowers not leave MBA for David Lipscomb over the summer? Why is the senior room turning into a place scorned by those it is supposed to serve? Why do so many students get kicked out in October/November (this year and last year)? Why are MBA publications not up to par?

Here is my story and my vision for the future of journalism at MBA.

MBA is going in many directions, and it wants to have a link to the past. The single easiest way for the school's alumni to connect to the

school is to pick up, you guessed it, the *Tennessean* Saturday morning and to find out the result from the previous night's MBA football game. And now with e-mail, those alumni who do not live in the mid-state area can find out the scores through e-mail and the Internet. (And I am impressed with the *Tennessean's* coverage of prep sports in print and on the Web.)

Since MBA does not like to think of itself as a one-dimensional school, the debate program is boosted up to being the school's other pride and joy. Thanks to recent successes in both programs, football and debate are now examples of excellence to follow. When in public, speaking in front of MBA assemblies and whatnot about our excellence, it is always the debate team and the football program.

What about everyone else, those who are not involved in football and debate?

Each extra-curricular programs at MBA have their glory years. The last few years, MBA has had a renaissance of sorts in certain areas. The football and running programs have amassed a total of five state championships, the debate team won a national one—but it seems as if each of these programs is close to the end of their dominance. There are no senior policy debaters, no record-breaking junior runners, no sophomore quarterbacks. What will happen in a few years when MBA is back in the TSSAA, playing public schools

and getting beaten on a regular basis? What will the school have to turn to when there still are seven homeowners on Brighton who won't sell their homes?

Maybe it is time for the publications at MBA to step up. Once upon a time, there was a space on the back of the *Bell Ringer* for, presumably, a mailing label. What if all alumni, along with getting appeals for donations, got a *Bell Ringer* too? What if activity period changed from a joke into a time in which people could do quality work, not only in the realm of publications, but also could help learn their lines for a play or tutor Microbes?

The time has come for other changes in the way our school runs. We need not only to change the structure, the look, and the classroom space, as we have been doing for the past few years and will continue to do until way past I leave, but also certain things that will ensure the future of this school, not only monetarily—as we have had a series of very successful fundraising campaigns—but extra-curricularly.

The problem with an institution like MBA, and it is a good problem to have, is that it is pulled in so many directions. Why not start pulling toward the second floor of Ball, or next year, toward the first floor of Carter?

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## Team Dynamics

By Moses Osemwegie

As a member of the varsity football team, I feel more a part of the MBA community because I can contribute to the team and of the school. My role on the defense is to play hard, smart, and play every down as if it were my last. I must play 100% every time that I step on the field.

When I get on offense, I try to make sure that I have a positive impact on each play, whether it be as lead blocker for the tailback or quarterback or as a running back trying to reach the end zone. Every time I touch the ball, my goal is to score a touchdown.

The coaches and the players put their faith in me to do my job on the field, whether it be a little thing, such as reading my keys as a linebacker and taking out the lead blocker so that my teammates, like my counterpart Tate Rich, can come and make the tackle, or whether it be that I make a big play, such as a game winning tackle or an interception. Either way, the results help to benefit the team.

That is why the coaches put me on the field because they think that I can help our team reach the goal of an undefeated season and a repeat victory in the Clinic Bowl (which we did).

Likewise, off of the field and in

the classroom, my parents, teachers, coaches, and teammates expect me to abide by the school motto, "Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete."

In the classroom, my teachers are the coaches. They tell me the game plan and expect me to execute it to the fullest of my abilities. If I don't know what is going on in class, I can just ask my classmates or the teacher.

Football plays a part in my academic life as well. It taught me discipline in the classroom and to be respectful toward my teachers and others.

Although my immediate family pushes me to strive to do well in class, my second family, my teammates, encourage me as well. For last year's final history exam, two of my teammates, Tate Rich and Chris Camp, decided to start a study group to help prepare for our final exam. This is what a family does. The members help each other, no matter what the situation may be, because when one of us falls, we all fall.

We stick together as one like a real family should do.

These are the reasons why I feel accepted into the MBA community and I am proud to be a member of this family.

## A Sophomore Slump

By Zac Hood

The Nashville Predators have found themselves looking for answers. Starting the second year of their franchise, the main goal was to continue their fairly successful ways considering they are an expansion team in the NHL. Although hockey is here to stay, the Predators have struggled lately. The main problem has been with the consistency of play. One night, the Predators will play a complete game with good play from all aspects of defense and offense, and the next night, they seem to be hoping that the puck goes in the net. Confidence is a huge part of any sport and that's something the Predators just haven't had lately. After having their first winning record in franchise history as well as a first hat trick ever by Rob Valicevic, the Predators have gone on to win only 5 more games with two

separate losing streaks of 5 and 7 games. Although the Predators are a team of the future, fans would like to see some victories now. One suggestion would be to spend less money on the elaborate jumbotron graphics, flying inflatable Predator, and the enthusiastic Puck Patrol people who only annoy you while you are trying to watch a hockey game. The Predators need turn up the intensity quite a bit as they head into the second half of the season. With the Titans, Vols, and even Commodores showing winning ways, the Predators will have to come up with a new slogan for 2000. The beast hasn't necessarily returned from what people have seen on the ice. A possible slogan for next year: "Sergei Krivokrasov's Search for the Holy Grail", Lord Stanley's Cup. Keep those fang fingers in a safe place, but don't worry about using them any playoffs anytime soon.



## UT Fans Too Cocky

### Dialogue Between a UT and Vandy Fan

By Hamilton Berry

*Note:* The hidden UT cutdowns in this article do express the true opinion of the writer. They are directed not at all UT fans, but towards those who treat Vandy fans like dirt (most of them). Again, all in "good fun." The anger at UT needed for this article is justified.

UT: Go Vawls!  
 VU: (no reply)  
 UT: Go Vawls!  
 VU: (no reply)  
 UT: GO VAWLS!(confusion building)  
 VU: looks into space intelligently and with an air of superiority( for slow UT types, superiority means the quality of being superior)  
 UT: GO... - hey, did you know my momma's uncle's sister's second favorite college roommate knew Phillip Fulmur?  
 VU: Right.....  
 UT: Yep, she did. She said he's a little fat and wears orange and coached dem' Vols to duh national championsheeyip and he laykes to win football games. Huh, did yuh know dat, meester?  
 VU: As a matter of fact, I did.  
 UT: Wayll, I betyadidntknowdat UT's gonna whup up on Vandy thees year. Huh. Huh. Huh.  
 VU: Huh, huh, NO.  
 UT: Are you standin' up to my authoritae?  
 VU: What authoritae?  
 UT: You know, uh, the authoritae, yeah, the, uh, yeah, uh, uh-huh, right, yeh, uh- what was the question?  
 VU: What authoritae?

UT: Have you seen the show COPS? It's got plenty authoritae with guns and stuff. It's *reel*.  
 VU: We're not talking about TV shows that only air in rural counties of Eastern Tennessee at 5am.  
 UT: Uh, yur wrong meester man, COPS airs at 8PM on Fox on the third Sunday of every fourth month.  
 VU: How do you know these things?  
 UT: I went to school, too.  
 VU: To learn about COPS?  
 UT: Uh-huh, they told us about how we could be famous if we signed up to stage those real crimes they show on the show, yep.  
 VU: Stage real crimes, huh?  
 Unbelievable.  
 UT: You're not followin' me, are you?  
 VU: Right..... back to the big game.  
 UT: What big game? I just run over some big game in my truck, yep.  
 Hey, uh, you know about the roadkiall biall?  
 VU: I give up.  
 UT: Well, if you give up, I'll tayll you about the roadkiall biall. If I's ridin in mye Chevrollay and I run over some deers or some possums—  
 VU: I'm outta here.  
 UT: Hey, did I already tayll you dat duh Vols are gunna whup up on duh Dores?  
 VU: Yes.  
 UT: Really, or areyuh just tellin me warsh?  
 VU: Yes, you do need to wash, and I'm not telling you a lie.  
 UT: I hope not. Dis , uh, giy, yeh, uh,

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## Vols All the Way

By Daniel Gluck

When the word *elite* is mentioned in reference to college football, a few teams are always spoken of: Nebraska, who defined the "option" and is always noted for its swarming "Black-shirt" defense; Florida State, with their amazing passing attack and 95% discounts; and Florida, a team known for its "Fun-n-gun" offense and visor-throwing coach. Well, there's a new team that deserves to be considered in this elite group of football programs. They have a National Championship this decade, a coach with the best winning percentage among all active coaches, and a group of players that are amongst the top in talent year-in and year-out. They have been to a bowl game every year this decade, and averaged ten wins a year in the '90's. And yet, the University of Tennessee still does not get the respect that they deserve.

The University of Tennessee has one of the richest traditions of any college football program. They were ranked 7<sup>th</sup> on the ESPN all-time greatest college football teams. They are 2<sup>nd</sup> all time in the number of bowl appearances by an NCAA team. Tennessee plays at Neyland stadium, the second largest football stadium in the country. From no stadium in the country, however, can louder boo's be heard when Florida takes the field for it's game at UT. And then, there are the UT fans. Tennessee has arguably the best fans in the country. Each fan shows up at every game about an hour early, clad in orange, ready to cook their crawfish dinners for their tailgates. Some come by trailer, some by boat, and some by car. They come

from all over the country to watch the most exciting team in the country whoop-up on another opponent.

This season has been a down year in college football. I want to talk first about this year's Volunteers. This team has the most raw talent of any other team in college football without a doubt. No questions asked. They handled Wyoming in their first game. Next, they went down to the Swamp, the hardest place in the country to win a football game. I have to give it to Florida. They played their best game of the season and beat UT. Somehow, Tennessee just wasn't emotionally ready for that game. Had it been in Tennessee, it would have been a different story. Tennessee then beat Memphis, Auburn, Alabama (handily I might add), Notre Dame (also handily), Georgia, and South Carolina. Next, they went down to Arkansas, where they lost a game to a team who wanted to win so badly that they never gave up. Every good team can't always go undefeated. This wasn't UT's year to put a zero in the loss column. However, they picked it up after the Arkansas game, and beat their last two opponents: Kentucky and Vanderbilt. By the way, I want to congratulate Vandy on its five-win season. The difference between UT and Vandy is that Vandy goes nuts when they win five games, while UT considers eight wins a down year. Keep trying Vandy, and maybe next year you can hold us to under thirty points. From observing numerous college football games this year, viewing the stats, and having some knowledge about college football, I

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## Bowling Team Asks, Where's the Respect?

By Josh Eaves

Everyday for six months after the tryouts you get up and go to school. You have to sit through 8 classes before you finally regain your freedom. Then you have to drive about 15 minutes to practice. For two hours you throw a sixteen-pound ball towards 10 pins, trying to knock as many down as possible. Two hours of intense physical and mental activity, and that's just practice. Twice a week, you are subjected to intense mental and physical punishment as you go head to head with some of the best players of the sport in the area. After all of this activity, you are still not

given a varsity letter for your effort. Sure people who run around a track get a letter, and people who stand and shoot guns at targets get letters, but those of us who participate in one of the longest sports seasons at MBA do not even get to have a budget.

If you haven't already guessed, I am referring to the MBA Bowling team. Only in its second year of existence, the Bowling team has quickly made a name for itself within the illustrious bowling community. Although the inaugural season left much to be desired, after intense off-season training, the team has quickly established itself as one of the top

teams in its division. With wins over Harpeth Hall, Franklin High, Hume-Fogg, and several other schools, MBA has already compiled more wins this year than it did in last year's entire season thanks to the addition of several ringers. Although we cannot claim an undefeated season, we can still say that we are probably just as good for the school seeing that we have been given no money from the school, and yet we are still able to bring some recognition back to our fine institution. And thus only one question seems left unanswered, and that is, WHERE IS THE RESPECT?

I think the decision is a very

simple one. Ten fine young gentleman have given their time and attention to a sport for about six-months and so it is only fair that they receive fair compensation for their efforts. We are not asking for any money to buy new equipment, we are not asking for anything other than an invitation to the spring athletic banquet where we might receive a varsity letter for our efforts during the season. Bowling is soon to become a TSSAA sport, that is more than Lacrosse or Swimming can say, and so I think it is only fair that the Bowling Team receive varsity letters. Please won't somebody think of the children?



## Top Five Teams of the Decade

By Johnny Sisk

### 1. Chicago Bulls, 1991-1998

The Bulls have, no doubt, been the team of the 1990's. No other team can claim six world championships, in which they had two three-peats. Factor in that their star, Michael Jordan, after taking a two-year minor league baseball sabbatical returned in 1996 to repeat the three-peat. The Bulls had arguably the greatest NBA dynasty since Red Auerbach's 1960's Boston Celtics squad, led by Bill Russell, which won eight straight championships. And if Michael doesn't leave for two seasons in the mid-1990's, Chicago may very well have won that record eight straight titles. They hold the greatest regular season record ever posted by a NBA team in 1995-96 at 72-10. This team had the two greatest basketball players of the decade in Michael Jordan and defensive superstar Scottie Pippen. No other team even challenged them in their journeys for championships. And in 1998, with a hyper-extended salary cap and a roster full of free agents, the franchise fell apart losing their stars and consequently their games. The Bulls, in an ironic twist, somehow represent both what was right and wrong with professional sports in the 1990's.

### 2. Dallas Cowboys, 1992-1996

All right, take away the crack-smoking and prostitute-soliciting antics of Michael Irvin, the airport rifle-toting head coach in Barry Switzer, the numerous drug violations by linebacker Leon Lett, the smarmy scum of a human being in owner Jerry Jones, and, well, just about anything and everything Deion Sanders says or does, and you have the classiest NFL franchise in the history of professional sports. Okay, despite their legal (as well as moral) misgivings off the field, it was what they did on the field that made this team so good. With one of the game's most accurate passers in Troy Aikman, the league's premier running back in Emmitt Smith, and the game's second best receiver in Michael Irvin, there isn't much doubt that this team is the NFL's franchise of the decade. With three Super Bowl wins in a span of four years, the team dominated their opponents as well as Texas police reports the past eight years like no other team.

### 3. New York Yankees, 1996-present

Manager Joe Torre never had a true star step up to lead the latest version of a franchise that continues

to excel in the sport of baseball. No Babe Ruth, no Mickey Mantle, but rather a bunch of guys who simply wanted to win. And win they did. Paul O'Neill, Bernie Williams, and Derek Jeter. Not exactly a fearsome threesome, but guys with a lot of heart. In 1996, they stopped the Atlanta Braves in the World Series down two games to none, halting the Chop Shop's hopes for a repeat. Two years later, the Yankees won 125 regular-season games and were proclaimed one of the greatest baseball teams in history. Then they swept the Padres. This year, the team Southerners loved to hate made it three championships in four years sweeping the Braves, once well on their way to owning the title of "Team of the Decade." Sorry, Hotlanta, but it's the Yanks who are riding a 12-game World Series winning streak into the next millennium and have staked claim not only to your title, but also "Team of the Century."

### 4. Atlanta Braves, 1991-present

The phenomenal transformation of the Atlanta Braves from a losing franchise to a winning team in 1991 brought the city great joy. Eight years of playoff let-downs later, the team has simply become a city-widenedisappointment and post-season embarrassment. Their sole championship came in 1995 versus the Indians. But in four other World Series, they left with nothing. Still, they have the best winning percentage of any team in the 1990's, and have managed to become the first team in baseball history to win eight consecutive league pennants to the NLCS. With a core pitching staff of Tom Glavine, John Smoltz, and Greg Maddux, the team has remained on top of most of the competition. Unfortunately for Atlanta, their team will always be the greatest second-place power of the decade.

### 5. Montgomery Bell Academy Varsity Football, 1990-1999

Yes, there were other good teams to play high school football this decade. Brentwood Academy had a good championship run with a little help from their inability to read the TSSAA's popular best-seller "Recruiting Do's and Don't's for Dummies". And, yes, even the Father Ryan Irish got their dirty paws on a Clinic Bowl trophy. But no team has continued a winning tradition with the same class as Montgomery Bell Academy has the past ten years. Surviving the loss of

coaching legend Tommy Owen, the coaches have produced some of the greatest teams MBA has ever had. Ending the decade with their 100<sup>th</sup> and 101<sup>st</sup> anniversaries, the team has finished the '90's with two consecutive championships, 17 straight wins, and an astounding 100 victories in the decade. Yes, this team is one for the ages.

## Weenie Bowl

By William Corbett

MBA may have several college football prospects, but unknown to many, other, unlikely candidates have been overlooked. Just last night at the athletic banquet I admired the finesse and skill with which the Big Red was able to pass, run, block, and play better than any opponent all year. Did I mention our tackle? Nothing grasped everyone's attention quite like the plethora of violent, jaw-breaking body to body collisions that left opponents leveled. The football team has skill, what can I say.

While football reigns high and mighty amongst the other MBA fall sports, cross-country and golf strive to survive at bottom of the popular athletic food chain. CC meets at Steeplechase are attended merely by parents, few students, and, well...The Cross-country team's cheerleaders include um...uh...heh...we don't have any. Quite frankly, nobody cares.

Of all the golf pictures I have seen, no parent or student has been present at the matches. So logically I must assume that no one, absolutely no one, likes golf. And cheerleaders? They don't need any because several are already on the team. But with all due respect, golf seems like an intriguing sport that takes time and practice to master, and apparently they like wasting their time.

Nevertheless, the time of the year comes when both teams have chances to prove their true skills at a real sport. Master DP, Hambone a.k.a. Whateva, and Maspac issued an odd yet threatening challenge and caused more fear in the front row of the assembly with their barrage plastic Uzi's.

The forces met, and the cross-country team won...big. 'Nuff said.

## Predators Looking for Some Answers

By John Eason

The Nashville Predators are beginning to crumble just as they did at this same time last season. They are slowly falling to the bottom of their division with the Chicago Blackhawks. At the top of their division, the central, are Detroit and St. Louis with 17 and 16 wins. The Predators record is 9 and 17, which is not very impressive. In the games that I have gone to, I have seen a weak defense that is giving up open shots on goal that really are goalie can do nothing about. I feel that coach Barry Trotz needs to acquire one or two good defenseman who can keep down the open shots. Our goalie, Mike Dunham, in my opinion, is going a pretty good job with the defense he has. One bright spot to me has been the stars on offense. Cliff Ronning looks to be playing the best right now on offense and Sergei Krivokrasov, our only all star last year, is still playing pretty well. One impressive game this season was the win that the Predators had over the Detroit Red Wings. The final score was 4-1, which was huge for the Predators because the Red Wings are at the top of our division and they have won two Stanley Cups in the past four years. But I don't think this should be looked at too highly because it is only one game and right now our overall record is weak. The atmosphere of the game itself is great. There is good food except that the prices are extremely high and there are many activities that go on outside the game in the arena. If you are a big hockey fan you will love finally having hockey here in Nashville. But if your new to hockey then don't expect our team to be good for another couple years because we are going through a low time that every expansion team has to go through, who doesn't have lots of money. If you would like to see any upcoming home games, they are against Colorado (12/18/99) and against St. Louis (12/23/99).



## Football Team Reaches New Heights

in making this a dream season. And, as with all great teams, everyone relied on each other. The offense was

linebacker Tate Rich, who had 11 sacks on the season, along with Simmons, who had 4 interceptions,



relenting, with senior leadership from Jonas Rodriguez, who's made a career of exploding through tiny holes in the line and breaking defenders' tackles for unlikely scores. He did the same this season rushing for 950 yards and 10 touchdowns. Throw in one Mr. Football in quarterback Ingle Martin, who threw for 1,350 yards this season and rushed for 612. Between passing and rushing, he scored 30 TD's. Then give the team spark plugs like "little, big man" Andrew Ellis and Stewart "the Irish-fightin'" Miller, and you've got 349 more yards. Don't forget the offensive line, who many predicted would be the team's weak link because of their smaller size. Well, they answered all the nay-sayers' doubts assertively. Sure, Jonas and Ingle are good, but a team doesn't produce 3,801 yards of offense without a line with a lot of heart.

Of course, on those few occasions the offense didn't come out clicking immediately, it was the state's best defense which allowed the offense time to start moving. Or, they simply jump-started the team with big plays. Take, for instance, the game against Bolles, in which safety Barton Simmons made an early interception for the game's first touchdown. Or, how about, the defense's fumble recovery against Christian Brothers' on the game's first play from scrimmage in the Clinic Bowl, which led to Ingle Martin's rushing touchdown on MBA's first offensive play. Even offensive mastermind Coach Caudill admits without much hesitation, "The defense set the tone for the whole season, and then you throw in some very talented players on offense, you're going to be in every game, regardless of who you play." With senior leadership from Mr. Football

the defense crushed opponents before the Big Red's offensive machine even stepped on the field. Team captain Rich claimed, "Our goal this year was to out-hit our opponents. We wanted



to hit them in the mouth to the point that they would break by the first quarter, and we feel we succeeded in that goal. That's why we were successful ... It was a dream season." Fittingly, it was the defense that had the last laugh in a season which they dominated. With less than a minute left in the Clinic Bowl, Barton Simmons' final hit as an MBA safety was arguably just as painful to watch as it was for the receiver Barton leveled at about the 30. That one hit symbolized everything about this year's squad. Not once did they ever let up, and that attitude made them the great team they were. The first defense allowed only 33 points the entire season, none of which came in the first quarter.

Many weeks, the games had already been won by then. And as that receiver left the field with his chipped front teeth embedded deep in his bloody upper gum, there was probably no doubt in his mind either, that MBA was the best football team he had ever seen.

The playoffs unfortunately were almost an afterthought for students and fans alike. The playoff games themselves simply showcased the same brilliant confidence and execution the team had shown all year long. No doubt, the post-season was the most anticlimactic finish any football team could have. Could have played Ryan in the first round. They lost 60-21 to McCallie. So it was that epic match-up everyone had anticipated all season long - McCallie at MBA. Two hours and a 35-7 scoring romp later, the Big Red was in its third straight Clinic Bowl. But that same laid-back attitude filled the atmosphere. In fact,

sitting around in the Quadrangle studying for an eighth period test were going to be playing for their second straight championship the very next night. Could have played BA in the championship again. They were drowned by a purple wave in Memphis. So it would be a contest of Biblical proportions that everyone had waited for all season - MBA vs. Christian Brothers. But fear of a Clinic Bowl letdown abounded. All week the team heard about how good they were, how they were the best team to ever play high school football in Tennessee. But the coaches continued to remind them of their flat performance in a 10-7 Clinic Bowl loss to Ryan two years before and of last year's overconfident Brentwood Academy which had lost in the title game. But the team didn't even need that. And with a 49-15 victory over Christian Brothers, appropriately finishing the decade with MBA's 100<sup>th</sup> victory of the 1990's, there is finally no doubt that MBA is the best team in all of Tennessee. The casual confidence and the almost unknowing modesty they showed only magnified their greatness. As Jonas Rodriguez says, "One of the great things about this team is that we were able to focus at the right times to get the job done, and when we weren't in those times, we knew we could relax. Basically, the team was able to get down to business when need be, and that was reflected in our play during the games."

Last year's team won the Clinic Bowl with a miracle, game-saving interception 21-19, but they also lost two games. Sure, it was a more exciting, suspenseful season, but this was surely the less stressful one. Last year's squad didn't win the champion-

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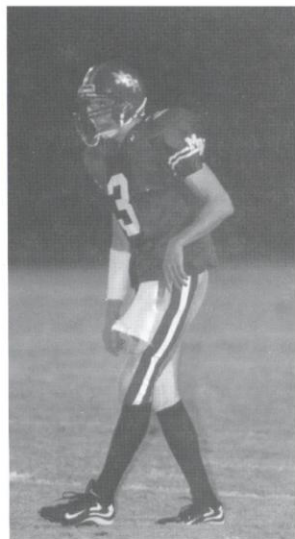




# Sports 9

## Football Team Reaches New Heights

ship game 49-15. Yes, they beat Ryan twice – 16-7 in the regular season and 19-3 in the playoffs – but did they ever swamp the Irish 55-12 at Vandy?



Last year, they lost one to Brentwood Academy and then barely beat them in the championship – but did they ever shut them out 31-0? Yes, last year's team wound up first in the state, but 18<sup>th</sup> in the nation? Who could have ever imagined that this season could top last year's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration? Well, the Big Red managed to make their 101<sup>st</sup> year the greatest season of football MBA has ever seen. Fitting, that in this, the final year of the century, one full of dominant MBA teams, this year's group showed why football is still the most celebrated of all sports. No other team can claim a perfect season, a state title, and a national ranking, all the while doing it with such grace and ease. If only everything was as easy as winning a state championship and going undefeated.

So, is this the greatest MBA football team ever?

While Coach Caudill and Coach Hiett agree that this has been the greatest team they have ever been a part of, Coach Elliott agrees, "In my nineteen years of coaching at MBA, this is probably the greatest team I have ever seen." When asked the same question, Coach Bowers gives his reasons for the team's unparalleled success. "It is difficult to compare any season and teams. I can say that this was a great season because the senior leadership, the overall commitment, and attitude of this group was quite remarkable. They handled this season in a very mature and responsible way. It's very rare that you have an undefeated season, but that was our goal. I felt we were capable of performing at that level, and any time you perform less than that, it kind of becomes disappointing and unacceptable, so I felt this team could be a great team and they were." However, with

good reason, he can't give all of the credit to this year's team alone. His explanation for this team's success lies in the foundation he helped build six years ago. "I think we have gotten better every year, if that tells the story. And mainly because of the previous year's work. I think we started off somewhere a few years ago, and have improved each year. The records don't necessarily

indicate that, but our overall understanding, commitment, effort, confidence, and performance has improved every year."

Fast forward to later on the night of September 10. One minute and twenty seconds remain in the fourth quarter. Bolles has just scored on a long clock-chewing, 17-play drive that MBA's suffocating but tired defense simply couldn't hold. And now it's up to junior Ingle Martin, in

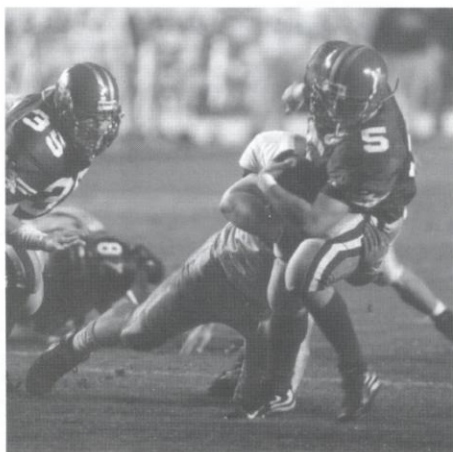


fires a bullet to a slicing Barton Simmons who gains another 16 yards on the play. After a 2-yard rush from Jonas, the Big Red sits on Bolles' 18-yard line with 46.2 seconds left. And all of a sudden, MBA is inside the red zone, on the brink of, arguably, the biggest upset the school has ever pulled off. And then, just a mere 59 seconds after the Big Red had started the drive, Ingle takes his final snap of the game. He fakes the handoff to

only his fourth game as a starter, to lead his team down the field to win the game. All of those Wednesday practice two-minute drills have suddenly become the most important thing the team has ever done. And now all they have to do is execute it again on the same field ... in front of thousands, with an undefeated season on the line. Starting at their own 32, the Big Red needs 68 yards in a little over a minute. Two incomplete passes and a five-yard penalty later, the light is slowly dimming on MBA's hopes for a perfect season. And then on the next play, the drive begins when Ingle, dropping back to pass, is rushed by three defenders. But Ingle escapes from the quickly collapsing pocket and runs for 24 yards getting out of bounds. Now just inside Bolles territory with a first down, Ingle takes a three-step drop to hit Roddy Story for a gain of 12 to the 36 yard-line. Then, after the team lines up in military-like fashion, Ingle takes a quick step back and

Jonas only to keep it himself avoiding a few defenders and gliding about 18 yards. With every player blocking and protecting the slashing runner, it is the sweetest fullback fake / quarterback keep you'll ever see. Ingle floats into the end zone, making all the fans in Tommy Owen Stadium wonder for just a moment if they're not all in a dream. No wonder the junior quarterback wasn't nervous before the game. He knew what was going to happen all along. The team was going to win as a team because MBA accepts nothing less.

As he walks back over to the sideline, he sees the scoreboard, which triumphantly reads MBA 26, Visitor 21. And that smile has suddenly reappeared as if it had never left his face. He's just taken MBA 73 yards down the field against a nationally ranked power. He's just given MBA their first 4-0 start in nearly a decade. He's just made MBA the undisputed favorite for a state championship. And he couldn't have done it without the team. Ten weeks later, the team is nationally ranked, undefeated, holding a state championship trophy, and has been deemed the greatest team in MBA football history ... but hey, there's nothin' to it, right?





## Sleepy Hollow Makes Heads Spin

By Will Choppin

Director Tim Burton and actor Johnny Depp have worked together movies such as *Edward Scissorhands* and *Ed Wood*. Now they have done it again, in this fabulous rendition of Washington Irving's tale of the Headless Horseman, *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*.

Depp plays Ichabod Crane, a doctor who wants to do autopsies on bodies while in New York. The people there do not think highly of this idea, but they then hear about decapitations in a place called Sleepy Hollow. Depp is sent there to do his studies where he goes to a party led by Dr. Lancaster (Ian McDiarmid) and the subject of the Horseman is discussed. Ichabod is a bit skeptical, believing that there is not a Headless Horseman. At the party, Ichabod meets Katrina Van Tassel (Christina Ricci), her stepmother Lady Van Tassel (Miranda Richardson), her jealous boyfriend Brom Van Brunt (Casper Van Dien), and her father Baltus Van Tassel (Michael Gambon).

The story of the Horseman begins a long time ago when he had a head. He was known as the Hessian Horseman (Christopher Walken), a great warrior who rode his valiant horse and his only weapon was a sword for beheading. One snowy day, he was surrounded by soldiers, and he himself was decapitated. Two young little girls witnessed this beheading,

one of which is key to the plot. One of her actions is the cause of the Headless Horseman and his beheadings. If the Horseman ever retrieves his head, he must go back to Hell and take the little girl with him.

Ichabod runs into many clues and useful pieces of information to plot a conspiracy. When studying the condition and state of a just recently decapitated body, Ichabod searches for the head.

"The heads were not found by the bodies?" he asks.

"The heads were not found at all," a village elder tells him. "Taken! By the Headless Horseman! Taken—back to Hell!"

After seeing the decapitation of the Magistrate Philipse (Richard Griffiths), he can now believe everything. The same person earlier tells Ichabod that there are five victims, but only four graves. Later, Ichabod encounters the Horseman. However, the Horseman does not kill him, and he just walks away. Ichabod realizes that the Horseman has some sort of mission to kill only certain people.

But who?

Crane tries to tie together all the victims of the horseman, and devises a conspiracy against Baltus. Katrina is saddened, but Ichabod, we learn, is not exactly correct. Later, Katrina's stepmother is (thought) to be victimized. Her being cut across her hand leads to the solution of the mystery, as

Ichabod notices something very peculiar about this cut. He goes to work instantly, and everything suddenly comes into place.

I found the time of the story quite significant, as the movie ends on

New Year's Day, 1800. Ichabod states that all must get ready for the "dawn of a new millenium." But now it's 1999, the dawn of a new millenium, and this movie is the perfect movie to see.

## Toy Story 2 Not Just for Little Kids

By Will Choppin

In between the previews to the movie and the start of *Toy Story 2*, the very first work of Pixar is shown. In the same three-dimensional graphics as *Toy Story*, one lamp (thus the lamp in the Pixar logo) is shown peering down on a smaller lamp that seems to be playing with a ball. The smaller lamp crushes the ball, and seems to be scolded by the larger lamp. This scene may sound like something quite boring to watch. However, being made in 1986, it is a work of art, even today. Now, add Disney's magnificence in movie making to Pixar's wonderful animation, and we once again have a great movie: a sequel to *Toy Story*.

The story picks up about where *Toy Story* left off. Andy, his mother, and all his toys have moved into a new house. Andy's mother throws a yard sale, and the toys begin to panic, for none of them want to be separated from each other. When Andy's mother puts Wheezy, a shelved toy penguin, into the 25-cent box of toys, Woody (voice of Tom Hanks) goes out to save him. When Woody reaches outside, he is found by a huge toy collector named Al (voice of Wayne Knight), owner of Al's Toy Barn. This toy has some sentimental value to him, and Al must have it. Andy's mother spots him and makes Al give it back, for it is an old family toy and Andy's favorite. Al creates a distraction for Andy's mother, and he escapes with Woody. The other toys, having notice, become frantic. Buzz Lightyear (voice of Tim Allen) feels obligated to save Woody, and so he takes along Slinky Dog, Mr. Potato Head, Rex, and Hamm to the rescue.

Al takes Woody to a room and puts him in a preservation container (which Woody then opens when Al leaves). Woody meets three other toys: Jesse the Cowgirl (Joan Cusack), a horse Bullseye, and Stinky the Prospector (Kelsey Grammer), who has never been opened from his box. All have been kept in storage for

many years. However, now that Woody has arrived, they are freed forever. Woody learns from these three a little more about himself. Woody's face was on every lunchbox and backpack. There was even a show about him in the past. Woody was a star. And since the television show about him was cancelled, he has been a very rare toy. The complete collection of these four toys is their ticket to be displayed in a very famous museum. Woody is mesmerized; however, he must decline this invitation back to stardom, for he cannot leave Andy.

The first *Toy Story* is a coming of age story for Buzz Lightyear. He must realize and accept that he is a toy, not a space ranger. The sequel is a coming of age story for Woody. When Woody says he must go back to Andy, Jesse tells Woody about her and Emily, her owner a long time ago. They had the same toy-child relationship as Woody and Andy do. Then one day, Emily let go of Jesse, completely. Woody must learn that Andy is growing up and will someday grow tired of his toys, including his favorite one. Woody realizes that Jesse is exactly right. Woody has a rip on his arm, which is both symbolic and a good reason for Andy to perhaps do away with Woody. However, Woody leaving Andy right now is not the right thing to do, as Buzz tells Woody when he and the other toys finally find him. Woody must make a decision. Should he go with Jesse and the others to the museum to be put on display? Or should he go back with Buzz so he can live the time that Andy does cherish he and his other toys?

*Toy Story 2* is most enjoyable. However, I did not find it as good as the first. Because of the similarity of structures, and because of a small spoof on *Star Wars*, the movie is unoriginal. However, it is very inspiring.

It is one of the only G movies worth seeing since the last *Toy Story*.

## Arnold and Millennial Fever at Their Best

By Jamie Sperring

*End of Days*, the newest Arnold Schwarzenegger action movie, investigates the religious side to the end of the millennium.

Jericho Cane (Schwarzenegger), a lowlife bodyguard for hire, becomes involved in a fight between good and evil, heaven and hell, as he attempts to prevent Satan (Gabriel Byrne), from impregnating a chosen woman, Christine York (Robin Tunney) and bringing about the end of the world.

With an intriguing, action filled plot, this movie is definitely one to see. At around two hours long, it would seem that one would become sick of watching Arnold shooting his gun off, but the movie never becomes boring.

Be prepared to jump a few

times during the movie, however, as people seem to have the habit of returning from the dead.

The special effects in this movie are incredible. From huge fireballs to guys pinned (literally) to ceilings, there is never a dull moment.

I personally could only find a few aspects to criticize. Once again, Arnold is up to his usual intelligent wit. This guy needs to stick to action. He makes a couple of lame jokes but the only humor in the movie comes from Jericho's sidekick, Chicago (Kevin Pollak) as he makes a few comedic comments, including "It's amazing what you'll agree to when you're on fire."

Be sure to see this movie before the millennium arrives; it will give you a whole new outlook upon New Year's.



## Smith Makes *Dogma* Full of Surprises

By Will Choppin

Kevin Smith's new film has stirred quite a bit of controversy.

The movie pokes fun at religion with crude humor and is based on some of Smith's personal beliefs. Smith however, who has directed the previous films *Clerks*, *Mallrats*, and *Chasing Amy*, is one of the most brilliant directors in show business these days and by no means wants to cause any controversy...iiiiight.

He has told the public that if one has a belief, his movie should do nothing but bring the viewer closer to faith in G-d. Keeping in mind that the movie might stir up controversy, a "disclaimer" is displayed at the beginning of the movie, which is meaningful, but not without Smith's humor. And so, we are left with a fine movie that can be enjoyed by everyone.

Two young men are sitting at an airport.

"So this is why I had to come down here man, I had to miss my

cartoons? You called me to tell me it's important," says one.

"We're going home," says the other.

But it is very important.

The two young men are fallen angels, Loki (Matt Damon) and Bartleby (Ben Affleck), and "home" is actually heaven. These two angels have not seen heaven in centuries, and now they have a ticket home.

Up in New Jersey, the Cardinal Gluck (George Carlin) is restoring a Catholic church with the new look of "Buddy Jesus" (Jesus gives you a thumbs up sign saying everything is okay). Once this church is reformed, the two angels will be transported back to heaven through the church entrance. However, there is a reason why the two angels were not in heaven in the first place. They have been banished by the Lord (who is played fascinatingly by Alanis Morissette) for being destructive and unfaithful to the Lord and the surroundings in heaven. Therefore, all

existence of mankind will be negated if these two angels are sent back to heaven. These two angels will eventually destroy everything.

The Lord apparently, who is all-seeing and all-knowing, realizes this loophole for the angels and acts upon it immediately. She sends her voice in human form, Metatron (Alan Rickman), down to the last known descendant of Jesus Christ. Her name is Bethany (Linda Fiorentino). Metatron tells her what has happened, and tells her what to do to save humanity: "Stop a couple of angels from entering and thus negating all existence. I hate it when it has to be spelled out for them!"

She then is to encounter two prophets, and then an apostle. The two "prophets" are the lovable Jay and Silent Bob (Jason Mewes and director Smith), one of whom is hormonally inclined, the other is silent but possesses hilarious expressions. After searching for the angels after a few days, their car has broken down,

and Jay shouts in vain, "Guys like that just don't fall out of the sky!"

All of the sudden, a naked black man proves him wrong. He is Rufus, the 13<sup>th</sup> apostle, who has been left out of the Bible because he is black (okay, so it's a little controversial). Now Bethany and her companions are ready to take on G-d's mission by storm.

There are many past Kevin Smith film paraphernalia in this movie. First and most commonly is the returning Jay and Silent Bob. Brian O'Halloran, who is Dante Hicks from *Clerks*, and Gill Hicks from *Mallrats*, reprises his last name as Grant Hicks, a news reporter. Jeff Anderson, who is Randal from *Clerks*, plays a gun salesman in this movie. Remember thee overweight man who tries constantly to find the hidden image in the Magic Eye during *Mallrats*? Keep an eye out for him looming in the airport. I applaud Kevin Smith immensely on this movie.

## Happy, Texas Delights All, Exploits None

By Will Choppin

Earlier this year, *Happy, Texas* was being shown at two film festivals: The Deauville and the Sundance. At both, first-time director Mark Illsley was nominated for the Grand Special Prize. Steve Zahn (*That Thing You Do*, *Out of Sight*) won an award at Sundance for his comedic performance. It was then moved to the cinemas on October 8<sup>th</sup>, to be enjoyed by the many moviegoers, and very enjoying it was.

The movie starts out with convicts doing community service: cleaning the streets of armadillos. One convict, Wayne Wayne Wayne, Jr. (Zahn), was picked to fight by another bulky convict, Bob (M.C. Gainey). Harry (Jeremy Northam) tells Wayne, "Just stay away, he'll kill you."

But no, Wayne whaps Bob against the side of the head with a bag of armadillos. A fight breaks out between the two, and is then broken up by two guards.

The three of them are then sent to the van and on their way to prison, where they will spend at least eighteen days in solitary confinement.

Bob wants more, and he begins to clobber Wayne. The jailer yells at them to stop, and this distraction causes him to lose control of the van, and they tip over. The three convicts are now free.

Bob pulls out a gun. "Is this goodbye?" Wayne asks him in fear.

"No, its just Adios!" answers Bob, who leaves the scene. Now Harry and Wayne, having a chance to escape, take their opportunity and flee.

After taking a pit stop, they encounter a winnebago. It has keys! So they take their next opportunity and off they drive. It is now night. They are pulled to the side of the street by Sheriff Chappy Dent (William H. Macy).

"We've been lookin' for you boys," he tells them.

Thinking they are arrested, they believe they are taken to a court-house. But they aren't being arrested after all!

That winnebago they absconded, those clothes with which they changed into from their convict scrubs--they belong to a gay couple who sets up the Little Miss Fresh-Squeezed Pre-Teen Beauty Pageant each year.

They are then given two options. Still not knowing who they are thought to be, and what is happening, they decide to pretend to be the couple, and are put in a situation in which they need to come up with half of the money, \$500, to hold the pageant.

They are get the first half from

the bank, and since they are cons, so why not rob the bank for the money and a little extra? However, Wayne does not like the whole idea.

"So we're gay? How bad can it be?" Harry tries to comfort Wayne. But they will soon find out what's coming for them.

The first twist in the movie

...as Harry and Josephine develop a friendship, she becomes more and more comfortable to open her heart and tell him her problems about guys and such.

occurs because of Wayne and Harry's interest in two women. (Keep in mind that the city of Happy is thinking that these two men are a gay couple.)

Harry develops an interest with the girl who runs the bank, Josephine (Ally Walker), and as Harry and Josephine develop a friendship, she becomes more and more comfortable to open her heart and tell him her problems about guys and such.

Another opportunity for Harry: he tells her that there's a guy out there who wants her more than anything (talking about himself).

He gets as compassionate as a

convict can, but gets the reply from her, "HA! Yeah, like any straight guy would say that to me!"

A problem arises for Harry in the movie: As long as he's someone else, he won't get the girl. Aside from Harry, Wayne has been visiting with a class of young children, about in the first grade.

Trying to be as much of a good influence he can for little children, he offers one child a cigarette, sets the school building afire, and leads them in signing "Ninety Nine Bottles of Beer on the Wall."

He may not be a good influence, by the gets the girl: the teacher of the class Ms. Schaefer (Illeana Douglas). She seems not to care about his influence on the children or the fact that people think he's gay.

And so on the story goes: Harry and Wayne are close to finishing the pageant, and they get an unexpected visit from someone, which complicates everything.

The two must now change their plans, and the truth must come out.

The good thing about *Happy, Texas* is that it does not exploit homosexuality to any extreme (like *In and Out* does).



## One-Acts Live Up MBA Theater

By Jamie Ransom

On the weekend of December 2-3, the MBA Theater Company put on a pair of one-act plays. *The Real Inspector Hound* by Tom Stoppard (author of *Shakespeare in Love* and many other short plays), and *Black Comedy* by Peter Schaffer (author of *Equus* and other plays).

Both were superb and hilarious. In *The Real Inspector Hound*, two theater critics, Moon (Gabe Roth) and Birdfoot (Ben Sabel) come to see a murder mystery. The play they are watching is incredibly true and overplayed, showing young Simon Gascogne (Charlie Harris) being torn between two loves (Liz Edwards and Maggie Moss) and then getting shot, and Inspector Hound (Jonathan Baichler) arriving to investigate the murder.

Tommy McGinn, Jenny Andrews, and Andrew Dunn also appear, as Cynthia's (Maggie Moss) wheelchair-ridden brother-in-law, the man's maid, and the Dead Body Under The Couch, respectively.

In between acts of the play, Moss and Birdfoot talk to themselves, the first about how his stand-on-critic might want to kill him, the second about how he is having an affair with both female stars of the play.

During the second intermission, the phone on stage rings, and Birdfoot answers it. While he is talking, the play starts over again, only this time Birdfoot plays the part of Simon, and Moon the part of the Inspector Hound when Birdfoot is shot with a real bullet.

The play ends with Moon being shot by the actor who plays Cynthia's brother-in-law. Puckeridge, Moon's stand-in (Tommy McGinn). The humorously overdone melodrama and clever plot of this play definitely earned it high marks from all audiences.

The second play, *Black Comedy*, begins as a simple evening, where Brindley Miller (Lee Isenhour) wants to show, and possibly sell, some sculptures to a German millionaire, and at the same time, impress the father (Taylor Sutherland) of his fiancée, Carol Melkin (Louise Riley). In order to make a good impression, Brindley has stolen the furniture of his neighbor, Harold (Robert

Wornack) to pass off as his own while Harold is out of town.

Everything goes fine until Brindley's apartment has a blackout. Then everything proceeds to go wrong. Harold comes back from his vacation early, and Brindley has to rush to move all the furniture back.

Meanwhile, both Carol's very military and very intimidating father, Colonel Melkin, and Brin's other neighbor, Miss Fumival (Kristina Hoge), arrive in the dark. The darkness and Brin's constant avoidance of conversation (a cover-up for the moving of the furniture) irritates everybody, and Miss Fumival proceeds to (supposedly by accident) get drunk, undoing her straitlaced appearance entirely.

The trouble increases when Brin's ex-girlfriend, Clea (Anne Rankin), whom Brin has been with for longer than he has told Carol, shows up and starts to make mischief, revealing things about Brin that he doesn't want anyone to know.

Then, as if all that weren't enough, a German electrician (John Hunsbricht) shows up to fix the fuse box, and is mistaken for the German millionaire. Finally, the theft of Harold's furniture and the length of Brin and Clea's relationship are both revealed, and both the Colonel and Harold attempt to kill Brin.

Amidst the confusion comes Bamberger, the deaf German millionaire (Brad McDowell), who ends the play by being electrocuted as the electrician tries to turn the lights back on. The utter confusion brought to the characters of this play is hysterically funny. Furthermore, the cast was able to turn several setbacks of the set into comedic aspects of the play. Like *The Real Inspector Hound*, *Black Comedy* garnered great response from the audience.

(Editor's note: There is the audience who got wet or were almost hit by flying shards of glass cannot be spoken for.)

The set and costume work done in the one-acts was excellent, and debut performances were very well pulled off by Gabe Roth, Lee Isenhour, and Tommy McGinn. I heartily applaud the performances for keeping the audiences rolling in the aisles, and offer congratulations to Dr. Fuller and Josh Evans, the directors.

## The World is Not Enough for Bond

By Jamie Sperring

*The World Is Not Enough*, the newest addition to the 19 Bond movies, is up to the 007 standards. With a well-written script and a fast-moving, yet still Bondish, plot, *TWINE* is another must-see movie.

Brosnan lives up to the role of James Bond. With his well-delivered lines and his overall acting performance, Brosnan proves once again that he is suited for the role.

Martinez (Elektra King) is also well suited for the role of a Bond girl. With the looks and the acting ability to match, she was the perfect choice for the seductive villainess.

Denise Richards, however, who

Having conducted extensive and tiring research, involving watching almost every Bond movie to refresh my memory, I have come up with a list of the top five Bond movies ever as well as the best actors to ever play Bond. In no particular order, here are the top five Bond movies of the century (and the millennium).

Of all the Bond movies to date, *Thunderball* has to be ranked as one of the best.

With its incredible special effects (for its time), great chase sequences, and overall excellence as a movie, it has been selected as one of the millennium's top five.

Next, *Never Say Never* with *Love* must also be on the list.

Although somewhat rough with the scene changes and obvious stage and studio in the filming, it was a well-delivered and directed movie. Its intriguing plot and great villains, not to mention the incredible acting skills of Sean Connery, put this movie as well in the top five.

Goldfinger, one of the 90's Bond movies, must also be added to the list.

As a continuation of the Bond saga and Pierce Brosnan's first appearance as James Bond, *GoldenEye* was a successful attempt at bringing back Bond.

Another old Bond movie, *Moonraker*, has also earned a spot on the top five list.

Roger Moore proves himself able as a Bond and lives up to expectations. The dramatic change of setting, from Earth to space, make this movie one of the classics.

Finally, *TWINE*, the Bond movie to end the millennium, also deserves a spot on the list.

As for the many actors who have played the role of James Bond, I have also compiled a list of the best to the worst.

The best Bond ever has to be Sean Connery. Next in the list, Pierce Brosnan. Then, it has to be Roger Moore. Timothy Dalton then appears on the list and finally, as the worst Bond of all time, George Lazenby.

No wonder he only starred in one Bond movie.

There you have it, a review of the 007 millennium.

I recommend that you check out *The World Is Not Enough*.

By Tom Atkinson

You won't be disappointed.

*The best Bond ever has to be Sean Connery. Next in the list, Pierce Brosnan. Then, it has to be Roger Moore. Timothy Dalton then appears on the list and finally, as the worst Bond of all time, George Lazenby.*

*No wonder he only starred in one Bond movie.*

plays the cocky American nuclear expert Christmas Jones, really shouldn't have been considered for the role.

Her poor acting just takes away from the overall success of the movie. Although complex I will try to sum up the plot without ruining any surprises for you. James Bond is assigned to protect the heiress of a huge oil company in Eastern Europe.

Bond, as usual, becomes (almost) quite involved with the case. Bond then finds his way, after fighting the evil forces of Renard (Robert Culp) as he attempts to through the world into anarchy. After a few deceptions and backstabbers, Bond meets up with Christmas Jones. The story then continues to develop from there, involving a nuke, a sub, and many explosions. Overall, I give the movie a thumb-and-a-half up.

But, *TWINE* is only one of the 19 James Bond movies.



## The Top Ten TV Shows of the 1990's

By Johnny Sisk

### 1. *Homicide: Life on the Street* (NBC, 1993-1999)

*NYPD Blue* may always be remembered as the cop show of the 1990's, but it was NBC's Friday night detective drama that was the more realistic and entertaining of the two shows. While Dennis Franz and company were always talking in some northern Yankee tongue that no one but actual cops could understand themselves, *Homicide*'s Baltimore detectives were real people who dealt with grisly murders the way real people might have. Following the career of Detective Tim Bayliss (Kyle Secor) from his first day until his shockingly dark last, the series showed cops in a real light for the first time on television. With the powerful Andre Braugher as Detective Frank Pembleton and the smirking Richard Belzer as John Munch, this was a series which could rotate television's most intriguing plot lines between *Homicide*'s multi-talented, ensemble cast, which was rewarded over three Peabody's. With Barry Levinson and Tom Fontana, every week was a new journey not only into the minds of criminals, but also into the minds of the detectives, as each rounded character was examined and reexamined over the series' seven-year run. Extra points to the show for one of the most brilliant series finales in television history last spring.

### 2. *The Simpsons* (FOX, 1990-present)

No other show in the history of television has thrived on so many different kinds of comedy. From sophomoric to satiric, from scathing insult humor to subtle parody, *The Simpsons* has entertained on all different levels. They've taken the dysfunctional family comedy to all new heights over the past ten years, and not once, has it ever come off as too sappy. The family's lovably stupid Homer is one of the funniest characters ever conceived and, Springfield's characters are more developed than any on NBC's Thursday night comedy block. Everyone has their favorite character, from Chief Whiggam to Principal Skinner, from Mr. Burns to Ned Flanders, from Reverend Lovejoy to Krusty the Clown. This series has been one of the most animated on television, and I don't say that because it's a cartoon. Its characters have exhibited more life than any other live-action comedy with the exception of one...

### 3. *The Larry Sanders Show* (HBO, 1992-1998)

Has any other show in the history of television so brutally portrayed such an egomaniac like late night star of *The Larry Sanders Show*, Larry Sanders. Played by the self-esteem-lacking hilarious comic Garry Shandling himself, Larry was a porthole of any and all insecurities exhibited in human nature. His jealous and conniving sidekick Hank "Hey There" Kingsley (Jeffrey Tambor) was just as funny playing his lovably despicable underdog sidekick. Throw in Rip Torn as Artie, Larry's father-figure producer and you have the funniest threesome of the decade.

### 4. *The X-Files* (FOX, 1993-present)

No other television drama has ever blended the genre of science fiction, the eternal quest for truth, man's inherent need for religion, a twisted sexual tension between reason and passion, a confusing conspiracy theory and reality, and the human spirit so brilliantly. In fact before creator Chris Carter's early 90's conception, this unusual mix had never been attempted before. And viewing the genius results, one wonders why. With David Duchovny as Fox Mulder, the FBI agent whose search for the truth (be it little green men or government conspiracy) is driven by the mysterious disappearance of his sister at 9, and his science-driven partner, Dana Scully (Gillian Anderson), is it any wonder the show has succeeded? Its thematic duality has provided years of intriguing plot lines and strange sexual tension. Now, most likely in its final season, the show explores the relationship between man, science, and religion. This drama has tackled the biggest questions in the universe. And, oh yeah, it's been the most frightening, thought-provoking, stimulating, and flat-out entertaining science fiction since *The Twilight Zone*.

### 5. *Seinfeld* (NBC, 1989-98)

Over the course of ten years, *Seinfeld*, generally regarded as the greatest sitcom of the decade, produced some of the greatest moments in television history. From the soup Nazi to "the contest", the show pushed the TV envelope in its best years. In the end, the show had about four truly spectacular seasons, 1992-1996. But in those years, the show was as funny as any other on TV. Reinventing and revolutionizing the sitcom form following as many as four different plot lines per episode,

the show's quick pace, lightning-rod timing, and brilliant ensemble cast was the funniest thing on TV for years. Jerry (Jerry Seinfeld) was the straight man off of which TV's most neurotic character George (Jason Alexander), the lovably frustrated and fierce Elaine (Julia Louis-Dreyfus), and America's favorite "hipster-doo-fus" Kramer (Michael Richards), all bounced joke after joke. As the greatest sitcom, it's ironic that the show was ultimately the darkest comedy quite possibly ever conceived on television. In its final three less humorous years, the show saw both the tragic death of George's fiancée and the imprisonment of its stars in the final episode. The four characters were arguably the meanest people in New York, but they sure were funny.

### 6. *Murder One* (ABC, 1995-1997)

Stephen Bochco's mid-1990's creation was simply too good for the public to watch for an entire season. That's because Bochco, in an unprecedented creative move, attempted to follow one murder mystery, from arrest to trial to verdict, all the way through. His reasoning was good. If America could stomach 24 hours/day coverage of the O.J. Simpson trial, then it could spend 24 hour-long episodes for a year following a much more interesting murder case.

Unfortunately, America's shrinking attention span coupled with ABC's bonehead scheduling cancelled this brilliant courtroom drama in two seasons, but while it aired, it was as good as anything else ever put on TV.

### 7. *Frasier* (NBC, 1993-present)

When NBC announced in 1993 that Dr. Frasier Crane would be packing up his bags in Boston and heading for a new life in Seattle, it seemed like the network's way of squeezing just a few more years out of their brilliant 1980's Thursday-night anchor, *Cheers*. Instead, *Frasier* quickly established itself as a brand new sitcom following the new Thursday-night power *Seinfeld*. With the producers' pairing the talented John Mahoney as Frasier's father and David Hyde Pierce as the star's brother, Niles, *Frasier* succeeded by itself. Given that Kelsey Grammer was the brightest of *Cheers*' incredible supporting cast, there was never a doubt which character would have his own sitcom. Then, after surviving on his own on Tuesdays, five years and over twenty Emmy's later, Dr. Crane moved back to his original address in

*Cheers*' old Thursday slot at 8. And even though the show has waned in the past two years, NBC's good doctor has entertained viewers and kept the network afloat for two decades.

### 8. *Late Show with David Letterman* (CBS, 1993-present)

No doubt about it. David Letterman has had his ups and downs. But that's expected when you're on the air for nearly two decades. After abandoning his 11:30 PM time slot on NBC for his 10:30 PM home on CBS in 1993, Dave has proved that he is clearly the current king of late night. When Johnny Carson's undeserving successor, Jay Leno, took the reins of *The Tonight Show* in 1992, he quickly brought one of the funniest shows in television history to a screeching halt. With his campy, cartoonish "comedy, Leno has turned *The Tonight Show* into more of a burlesque show than that of a talk show. Letterman meanwhile has continued exploiting his New York home with a realistic comedy found no where else on television. The age of irony he predicted with his 1982 *Late Night* arrival preceded this decade which has been engulfed in ironic humor. And Dave has continued to excel in the ironic decade he helped create nearly twenty years ago.

### 9. *Law & Order* (NBC, 1990-present)

What does it take to kill this show? Obviously not poor ratings its first seven seasons and over six major cast changes the show has survived. In 1998, it even won its first Emmy for Best Drama. But now in its tenth season, the show has proven better than ever with its plot-heavy storytelling and its focus not on the characters but rather on the stories themselves. The show has finally proved itself as a truly great drama.

### 10. *ER* (NBC, 1994-present)

NBC has remained America's most watched network in the 1990's because of one show - *ER*. Without this Thursday night medical drama, the network would have experienced an emergency of its own. While its stories are usually flat and most often ridiculous, Anthony Edwards' Dr. Mark Greene and the recently departed George Clooney's Dr. Doug Ross kept the show on life support by injecting it with some much-needed human drama. And now, in its sixth season, it still finds those dramatic moments between its remaining original cast which still make this show worth watching.



# 14 Entertainment

## Rage Concert Stirs Controversy

By Jesse Bull

Thousands of clean-cut kids showed up for the wholesome Rage Against the Machine show on December 8th at the world-renowned Municipal Auditorium (venue of such great acts as Green Day and the World Ice Racing Championships). In the true holiday spirit, the Fraternal Order of Police was there spreading

good cheer with their signs of protest, creating a lively, energetic atmosphere. The picketing was over Rage's support of Mumia Abu-Jamal, who was sentenced to death for the murder of a cop in Philadelphia in 1981. However, the band's front man, Zachary de la Rocha, asserted that they only wanted Mumia to have a fair trial. "We don't support any kind of killers...especially killer cops," he

yelled in anger.

The show started off with a stunning performance by Anti-Flag. Oh, wait, they were terrible—more like "Anti-Anygoodwhatsoever." But they did serve to rile up the audience and damage our ear drums a bit. They were followed by the self-professed "kings of hardcore underground rap,"

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## Vols

would say that UT is the best team in the country this year. Despite their two losses, there is no team in the country that could keep up with them on January 2nd. Except for maybe Nebraska. Nebraska has proven that they are worthy of their preseason hype, and from watching them play, they have shown that they might be able to play with UT.

The national championship game is a joke. Florida State played a very easy schedule. They are in the game on tradition, and a preseason number one ranking. And VIRGINIA TECH WHO? It is a disgrace to college football that Virginia Tech is in the national championship game. It is like putting Marshall in the national championship game. Virginia Tech would get killed by Tennessee, Nebraska, Michigan, Alabama, and Florida State. They didn't play any quality opponents this season, and don't know what it is like to play with the powerhouses. The real national championship game is on January 2nd in Tempe, Arizona, not on January 4th in New Orleans. Tennessee and Nebraska will duke it out under the desert sun. Tennessee should win, unless they have a repeat performance of Arkansas. The winner of this game should be crowned national champion. Who knows, maybe if UT wins the game they might get a little respect. Maybe.

## Vandy

dis giy, yeh, uh, he is duh preseedent, yeh, uh-huh, and he got in amessatrubble fur tellin a lie. And he also, yeh, he also got in trubble fur—VU: I know. Now please can we talk about the game?  
UT: Yes, uh, getting back to the game. Have yuh ever tried deers cukked reel slow over a greel on the tailgate of a 1986 Chevrolay El Camino? It's gooooooeeeeeeeeoooood.  
VU: (no reply, thinking: *that's alright, you'll be on COPS some day*)  
UT: Go Vawls!  
VU: Not this again.  
UT: Not whut again?  
VU: Stop saying 'go Vawls'!  
UT: Go Vawls! Hee, hee, heh, heh, heh, uh, uh-huh, am I annoyeng you?  
VU: Yes. Whatever you say.  
UT: GO VAWLS!

*Note number two:* I was going to write an article, entitled, "Five Things Vandy Must Do to be the Team of the 21st Century," but it was just too hard.

## Much Ado About a Good Show

By Jamie Ranson

On the weekend of November 11th-13th, Harpeth Hall put on a production of William Shakespeare's famous comedy, *Much Ado About Nothing*. In this play, Claudio the squire (Richard Howell) and the lady Hero (Cornelia Rowe) are in love and to be married, with the goodwill of Don Pedro (Jay Harbison), the Prince of Aragon and Claudio's liege lord, and Leonato, the governor of Messina and Hero's father (Kym Goldstein). Meanwhile, Don Pedro conspires to make a love match between two antagonists: Benedick, the comedic Lord of Padua who scorns marriage with his every breath (Aaron Manier),

and the sharp-tongued Beatrice (Allyson Foreman), cousin to Hero and famous for her contempt of men. With the help of Claudio, Hero, and Leonato, Don Pedro is able to convince Benedick that Beatrice secretly loves him, and vice versa.

Into this group of happy people comes Don John (Clare Harbison), the younger brother of Don Pedro, short, jealous, and admittedly evil. Don John sends his henchman Borachio (Adam Brooks) to slander Hero, causing Claudio to reject and condemn her for not remaining a virgin until her wedding night. Claudio's rejection almost kills Hero, but Benedick, Beatrice, Leonato, and the Friar

(Melissa Pinsky) conspire to keep Hero alive and hidden, while telling the world the slander of Claudio killed the poor girl.

Benedick, unknowing of Borachio's hand in the slander, agrees to kill Claudio for Beatrice and Hero's sake, even though he and Claudio were once great friends. However, Borachio, drunk, confesses to another of Don John's cohorts the slander he made of Hero, and is overheard by Dogberry, the inept constable of Messina (Emily Wall). Dogberry reports the offense to Don Pedro, and Don John flees before he is discovered.

Hero, cleared of her shame, is revealed to Claudio as still alive, and the two happily marry. Benedick, who has fallen in love with Beatrice, nervously casts aside years of hating marriage and proposes. Beatrice accepts, almost as nervously. Finally, Don John is captured in flight and happiness is restored to Messina.

The acting for *Much Ado* was very well done, with Richard Howell and Jay Harbison pulling off excellent debuts and Allyson Foreman shining as Beatrice. By far the funniest performance was Adam Brooks's Borachio, who kept the audience rolling in the aisles with his clever gestures and hilarious attempts always to keep his head below that of Don John. (Who, being played by Clare Harbison, was no taller than five feet, compared to Adam's at least 5'8"). Aaron's Benedick was also very humorous, especially when arguing with Beatrice (which was nearly all the time).

The one setback that this play ran into was a profound lack of male actors; the result being that many male parts had to be played by girls, including some fairly major parts like Leonato, the Friar, Dogberry, and Don John. However, the show was still excellent, and I give it high marks for its great comedy.

Goldie's is a neighborhood deli specializing in a variety of Kosher meats, soups, and sandwiches. We make party trays and can cater any function. From knishes to knockwursts and pickles and pumpernickel, Goldie's Deli has something to take care of the biggest of appetites.



4251 Harding Road  
Belle Meade Plaza  
Nashville, TN 37205

**Free 20 oz.  
fountain drink for  
all MBA  
seniors who go  
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off-campus  
lunch**

**Monday-Friday:  
9:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m.  
Saturday:  
9:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday:  
10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**



## COGITO, ERGO VROOM

By Taylor Sutherland

**Roddy Story's**  
**1979 Oldsmobile Ninety-**  
**Eight- Grand Cruiser Edition**  
**Vehicle Type:** 4-door Land Yacht

Silverado indicates that maneuverability may be a better word. It sort of drifts into and out of turns. The turning radius is about the size of the K-Mart parking lot and parallel parking is a definitive joke.



### Price and option breakdown:

Price as tested: \$5000

Options: Aftermarket vinyl top, front and rear bench seats, power front bench seat, ash tray the size of a small ash country, ash trays in all of the doors, trunk capable of storing an entire girls volleyball team, AM/FM Radio with three programmed stations which don't work, antenna built into windshield, light blue interior which closely matches light blue exterior.

### TS Test Results:

**Zero to 60:** 15 seconds assuming it doesn't stall out in the process.

**to 100:** Around 45 it develops a healthy burn, around 85 that burn has turned into a deafening roar which does not inspire one to push the limiter further.

**Handling:** Hmmmm. You don't exactly refer to this car as having handling. The fact that it is approximately the same length of an extended cab Chevy

### Test Drive Summary

BIG and Long. That's what encompasses every aspect of Roddy's sweet ride lovingly known as "Big Blue." It comes as no surprise that this sweet cruiser was not Roddy's first car, seeing as how it has such amazing performance capability, and that it was only bestowed upon him when his Cherokee's brakes decided to fail on a regular basis. This ride simply screams chick magnet. The first thing you notice about Big Blue as you approach it is that it is deceptively long. One look under the hood indicates why: this bad boy is powered by a sweet Detroit carbureted V-8 that giggles raw power. Sliding behind the wheel of the tank, you begin to realize that you can't see the front of the hood or the end of the trunk, and that someone has managed to dislodge the passenger side view mirror. No matter though because the front bench seat

gives you the feeling of sitting on a wagon preparing for a hayride, and after all when has anything bad ever happened on a hayride? But I digress. The instrumentation is like nothing any of us born during the Reagan years have ever seen before. The speedometer is not of the now standard round variety, but it is linear in nature with a needle which slides across it. Likewise the lack of a tachometer is clearly noted as the engine whines seemingly to deeply before shifting.

Cruising through the backroads of Cheatham County in this pimp-rod, you begin to notice that the girls volleyball team so easily stowed away in the trunk could also easily fit within the confines of the back seat. Indeed, Roddy has recommed stodies to me of the days of yore when he and his younger sister Elizabeth would play four quarter length games of tackle football across that massive bench seat. With the idea of the volleyball

teams already on board (one in the back seat and one in the sound proof trunk just in case), you could undoubtedly hold a WWF Royal Rumble in the front seat next to you. (N.B. Volleyball teams and wrestlers don't often mix well. Varying political ideas or something of that nature, I think.) As we stopped to each relieve ourselves (one magic flaw of this Olds is the lack of interior bathing/body waste removal stations), I proposed that we play a quick game of Ping Pong on the trunk. After this quick match which was made difficult because of the unusually large size of the playing surface, Roddy and I headed back for town.

The beauty of Big Blue isn't that it is a high performance GT car, or a monstrous SUV capable of going anywhere. The beauty of it is that you can stow up to two volleyball teams in it and still have enough room in the front for you and ten of your buddies to play a delightful game of



team firmly in place, it also becomes clear that with the two volleyball

teams already on board, nothing brings us together quite like UNO.



## East India Club



### HOURS:

Mon-Fri 11:30am-2:00pm  
 Mon-Fri 5:30pm-10:00pm  
 Fri-Sat 5:30pm-10:30pm  
 Sat 12:00am-2:30pm

### PRICES:

Lunch entrees \$3-\$9;  
 dinner entrees \$7-\$14.

### LOCATION:

Very close to the In  
 Burnwood Bldg, off I-65  
 at  
 4926 Thornhill Road  
 Burnwood 1707-4726  
 (615) 661-9919

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## MBA Continues Service

By Sameet Vaikunth

The M.B.A. Service Club continued its efforts in the month of November to serve the Nashville community with the Christmas Village, Relief Nashville, and the other monthly projects like Soup Kitchen, St. Vincent DePaul, Belmont Terrace Nursing Home, and Vandy and Titans parking. The November Soup Kitchen had a solid turn-out of about forty-five people who crowded into the kitchen to serve ham, green beans, biscuits, potatoes and chocolate pudding topped with whipped cream. The Belmont project did not see the same incredible turn-out of last time, but those who did go provided the elderly in the Nursing Home with a good talk. The St. Vincent DePaul project continued to

the kids enjoyed playing football, basketball, kickball, races and other games. The Christmas Village saw about eight students come and help set-up the event. Vanderbilt football saw its last home game of the season which meant the last time for Vanderbilt parking for 1999. The largest turn-out of the year was seen as almost ten people helped. The average money raised by each game for the Service Club was estimated at \$400. The second Relief Nashville project occurred. It was a wet, rainy morning and only six people made it including Johnathan and Ryan Miran. Gabe Sisco, Jesse Ball, and Robert Wernick. M.B.A. planted six more around Study Lane in East Nashville as part of an effort to replace trees devastated by the tornado.

## Journalism at MBA

The Bell Ringer has improved this year. All of my work has been worth it thanks to the comments I have received from teachers about such improvement. I have received a number of "Good issue, Gabe!"s and even a few "Great issue!"s. The comment that meant the most to me was one Mrs. Janet Hensley gave me after the first issue was released, as she said it was "the best issue I have seen in my eight years at MBA." The fact that we have three issues out before Winter Break, a feat that has not been accomplished for three years, is something to be proud of.

It seems that few students, however, can appreciate an MBA publication. The Bell Ringer is too boring, the Bell is too late, and Archives is too unorganized.

And then there is the issue of controversy. Should the Bell Ringer be a place where students can sound off about issues that bug them? Should their opinions be censored if they are too controversial. Right now, it is policy, one that I took from Lee Hampton, who was Editor-in-Chief in 1996-7, that no articles can be libelous, that is, no articles can blatantly insult someone without his permission.

(As far as insulting a whole gender, I'm all for that, as I condoned the printing of both the "Poll on High School Women" and the rebuttal.)

Maybe one day someone will pick up the Bell Ringer read the headlines, skim the front page articles, and learn something.

## The New Fellowship

feel pressured into joining an organization that does not fit their personal beliefs correctly. So for all of you pseudo-FCA members: you do not belong at FCA; you need to cuddle in the bosom of your Jewish heritage. As Theodore Herzl so eloquently spoke concerning the founding of Israel: "If you will it, it is no dream." So if

you're Jewish, and you're looking for a good time, show some interest in FJA, and we could do something, dare I say, revolutionary.

In fact, FJA could just be the beginning. The Fellowship of Hindu, Buddhist, and Modern Atheists all could follow.

I assure you, it is no dream.

friends who are like brothers. The brotherhood in my chapter, Ashkenaz of the South, is thriving. Also because everyone in AZA is Jewish we can be proud of our religious heritage together whether in services or in

social programs. AZA has become a home away from home where I can always feel welcome.

I am proud to be Jewish and I just wish that everyone could learn to accept that.

## Being Jewish

## Rage Against the Machine

Gang Starr. The clever name was about all this group "representin'" straight out Brooklyn had going for them. Their set basically consisted of bragging about their ten year's in the biz and singing a few 30 second songs with some shady characters standing in the back and nodding their heads. These included classics like "I say hey, you say aight," "I say 2, you say Pac," and "I say B.I., you say G." The best moment of their set was when they managed to get the entire crowd to hold up their hands giving a friendly gesture to the men in blue.

Fortunately, in Chris Henson's words, "Rage was just awesome." That about sums it up. Hundreds of angst-ridden teenagers fought the system and jumped the rail from the balcony to the floor, creating a dense, surging mass. It was quite a site to see the thousands of fans raising their fists in the air to the "militant poetry." The band's stage set consisted of two huge Red Stars, a picture of Che Guevara, and a massive backdrop of the album

cover with "Los Angeles" replaced by "Nashville"—hence "The Battle of Nashville" (pretty clever, huh?). The band put on a great live show, kicking out family favorites like "Bullet in Your Head" and "Killing in the Name Of," including a nice even sprinkling of material from all three of their albums. The crowd was great and Rage definitely had a powerful message—especially to the women to whom de la Rocha, read about men in the crowd hassling women, said, "If they try anything else on you, just take your thumb and shove it in their eye!" Charlie Exell came to the conclusion that "People are insane. It was wild," and William Kaminski decided that the concert was both "fun and funny." Cal Alexander couldn't think of anything to say because he didn't go to the concert, although he wishes he had. I think it an appropriate summation that, though controversial, Rage's show was totally gnarly.

## THE BELL RINGER

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Letters to the editor are encouraged, and can be given to a member of the editorial staff, or sent to [ringer@montgomerybell.com](mailto:ringer@montgomerybell.com). These letters must be signed, but names will be withheld on request. Letters will be edited for length if necessary.

The staff of The Bell Ringer prepares all copy, headlines, and photographs at Montgomery Bell Academy. EverReady Printing in Nashville, Tennessee, prints the paper.